

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

**IN RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SUPREME COURT RULE 7,
SECTIONS 2.03, 2.05, 2.07 AND 12.11**

No. M1999-00299-SC-OT-RL

ORDER

On February 8, 2000 this Court heard oral argument on the Board of Law Examiners' petition to amend Supreme Court Rule 7. The Board made certain concessions during oral argument, and the Court directed the Board to file revised proposed amendments incorporating the concessions. In addition, this Court instructed the Board to contact the Deans of the three ABA accredited law schools in Tennessee and ask the Deans' to assess the implications of the Board's proposed changes to Article II which enhance the role of law schools in determining the character and fitness of law school applicants, students, and graduates and which impose standards somewhat different than those currently required by the American Bar Association.

On July 26, 2000, the Board responded to our request by filing a "Post-Hearing Memorandum on Behalf of the Board of Law Examiners".

The Nashville School of Law and the Tennessee Bar Association are hereby asked to respond to the proposed amendments to Articles II and XII of Rule 7, as revised. The revised proposed amendments are found in Exhibit A to the Board's Post-Hearing Memorandum filed July 26, 2000. The responses shall be filed within 45 days from the date of the filing of this order.

In addition, the Board is hereby directed to serve a copy of its Post-Hearing Memorandum upon the following individuals:

Dean Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., the University of Tennessee College of Law, 1505 W. Cumberland Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-1810.

Dean Kent Syverud, Vanderbilt University Law School, 131 21st Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37203-1181.

Dean Donald J. Polden, University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, 207 Humphreys Law School, Memphis, TN 38152-3140.

The above-listed Deans, or their designees, are requested to respond, if they so desire, to the comments in the memorandum regarding "the role of approved law schools in assessing the character

and fitness of their students to practice law in Tennessee” (found on pages 3-7, section II of the Board’s Post-Hearing Memorandum). The Court is considering whether the language in the proposed amendment to Section 2.03(a)(5) of Exhibit A should apply to all ABA accredited law schools in Tennessee, in addition to Section 2.03 law schools. If any of the above-listed Deans wish to respond, the responses shall be filed within 45 days from the date of this order.

The Board of Law Examiners shall have 15 days thereafter to reply to any responses filed.

ENTERED this 26th day of July, 2000.

PER CURIAM